

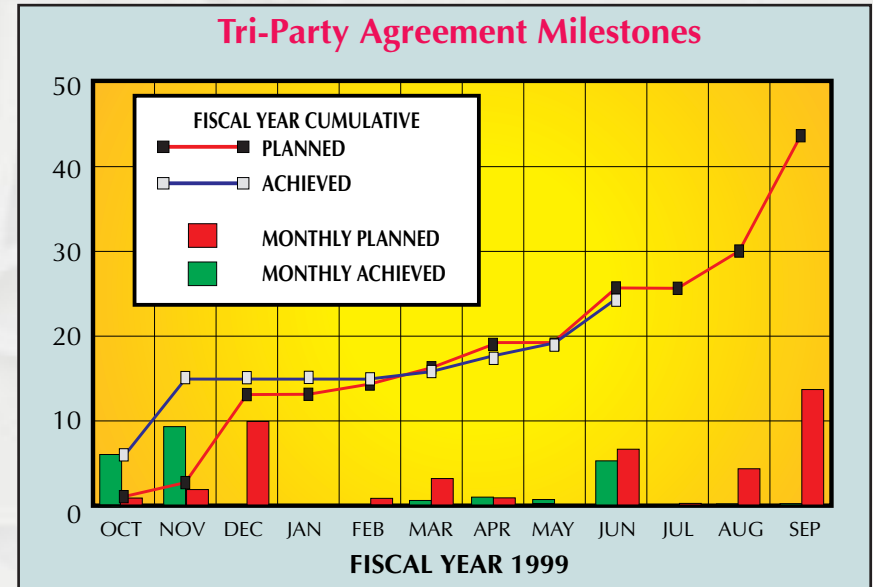
## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Fiscal Year 1999 Highlights

On May 15, 1999, the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order – better known as the Tri-Party Agreement – marked its 10th anniversary. The model pact launched the Department of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency and State of Washington on a 30-year journey for the environmental restoration of Hanford. Its effectiveness in moving cleanup forward is due, in part, to its built-in flexibility: 281 changes have been negotiated over the decade to address environmental, safety, or technical issues that arose. The Agreement's success also stems from the continued focus of the three parties on the end goal: Hanford cleanup.

This report highlights another quarter of real progress by our team under the Tri-Party Agreement umbrella:

- Long-standing tank safety issues are being resolved.
- Wastes are being pumped out of aging underground single-shell tanks.
- The legacy from decades of plutonium processing is being safely stabilized.
- Facilities are being built and equipment installed to move spent fuel away from the Columbia River.
- We are close to certification to ship transuranic wastes to a repository in New Mexico this fall.

In addition, we continue seeking ways to reduce the cost to taxpayers and expedite cleanup. One way is to apply new technology. In fiscal 1999, we've deployed five alternative technologies and 10 more deployments are planned by October. We also conducted four demonstrations of promising cleanup technologies this year.



*DOE Richland Operations Office Manager Keith Klein addresses one of three employee rallies held to mark the Tri-Party Agreement's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.*

Highlights

